



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## BOOK REVIEWS.

---

*Introduction to the Study of Economics.* By CHARLES JESSE BULLOCK, PH.D. Silver, Burdette & Co., 1897.

TO WRITE a text-book upon economics, which shall be at once easy and adequate, is an exceedingly difficult task. On the one side there is the danger of falling into mushiness, platitude, and preaching, and, on the other side, of mistaking shortness for simplicity. Unfortunately for this case there are not two systems of economic thought—one easy political economy, and the other difficult political economy,—there is only political economy. Practically the only choice open to the writer of an elementary treatise is in deciding what to leave out. So much of theory as he states will not be elementary theory or advanced theory, but merely theory. The remaining questions are matters of exposition.

Mr. Bullock in his *Introduction* has evidently had these facts in mind, and has deliberately and clear-sightedly chosen his way of meeting them, or, perhaps more accurately, of going round them. It is not strictly necessary that the study of economic facts should include the close examination of theoretical doctrines. There is a large field for descriptive work—for the data. It is to this aspect of the subject that Mr. Bullock especially devotes his attention. If the thing is worth doing, Mr. Bullock has certainly done well. One is inclined to question whether this method of presentation, this exhaustiveness in facts and details, this primary encyclopædia of enumeration and description, is the best method of stimulating thought, or of giving the pupil something to abide in his mental furnishing. But all this is matter of method, and many teachers will agree with Mr. Bullock and will cordially welcome his book. There is a place for it. It has the merits of accuracy, clarity, and sobriety. At the same time there are all the defects of the merits: it has too much sobriety. The style is lucid, simple, and direct, never in bad taste, but simply without taste. It lacks snap and interest. It is trusty and path-keeping, but spiritless.

A defect which inheres in Mr. Bullock's method is that his book lacks consistency, in the sense of logical coherence. Rent, wages, interest, and profits are at the back of the book, as seemingly they just as well may or may not be. The truth appears to be that to elementalize economics, so to speak, by taking the theoretical backbone out of it, cannot fail to leave the subject formless and flabby. But this is the old problem of what to do in an elementary book. At all events, so far as the book is doctrinal at all, it is admirably sound and judicial. To one who reads between the lines it is evident also that Mr. Bullock is a master of the science, is fully conversant with its most progressive thought, and is thoroughly in sympathy therewith. As a whole the book deserves no small praise. But it is too long—480 pages.

H. J. DAVENPORT.

---

*Supplément au Nouveau Dictionnaire d'Économie Politique de M. Léon Say et Joseph Chailley-Bert.* Paris: Guillaumin & Cie., 1897. Roy. 8vo. pp. 271.

THIS supplement takes the place of a second edition of M. Say's Dictionary. The correction of errors and the addition of necessary articles in the form of a supplement have saved the purchasers of the Dictionary the necessity of buying a second entire edition. Such a regard for the early buyer is as commendable as it is rare.

M. Chailley-Bert informs us that M. Say, in the entire Dictionary, as well as in the supplement, had in the main the oversight of the list of articles, choosing the writers, reading the manuscripts, and reviewing the proofs. The supplement adds, among others, necessary biographical articles on Bagehot, Baudrillart, Cairnes, Courcelle-Seneuil, Cournot, Dunoyer, Fawcett, D. Hume, Jevons, Cliffe Leslie, Mangoldt, Marlo, Moeser, Thorold Rogers, Roscher, and Léon Say. Other needed articles are those on Anarchie, Anti-Sémitisme, Circulation monétaire, Crédit agricole and Credit foncier (by Ives Gyot), École anglaise (by H. Higgs), Nihilisme, and Placement.

This last work in the very distinguished career of M. Say bids us pause to express our respect for his life and economic activity. The bibliography (p. 267) of some fifty titles shows an amazing productiveness during his seventy years (1826–1896). Contrary to the dictum of some wise observers that a writer's chief productive period is from thirty to forty, M. Say's greatest activity seems to have been reached after he